

# RECLAIMED WATER

# Saving Groundwater for Drinking

Winter 2003



# Use Reclaimed Water Wisely

Before reclaimed water service is initiated at a property, the owner signs a Reclaimed Water User Agreement. This User Agreement is a contract between the property owner and Tucson Water. By signing the Agreement, the owner commits to follow the rules and regulations that govern use of reclaimed water. Failure to obey the rules can result in a discontinuation of reclaimed water service.

#### **Chinese Scientists Learn From Tucson**

This past December a delegation of engineers and scientists from Beijing, China was in Tucson to learn about our reclaimed water system. Beijing, a rapidly growing city of 12 million people in northeastern China is facing water supply challenges much like Tucson's.

During their visit to
Tucson, the Chinese
toured Tucson Water's
reclaimed water
production facilities,
including the filtration
plant and the
Sweetwater Recharge
Facilities. They visited
the University of
Arizona to see how
the UA is using
reclaimed water for



Tucson to Beijing is 6,598 miles.

turf irrigation and in cooling towers. They also watched Tucson Water and the Tucson Unified School District conduct a dye test at Mission View Elementary School to ensure that there were no cross connections between the reclaimed and drinking water systems.

Beijing and Tucson have been working together for several years. In 2000 Marie Light, a Tucson Water hydrogeologist with expertise in recharge, traveled to Beijing to teach a week-long course in designing, constructing, and operating effluent recharge projects.

Beijing is developing a reclaimed water system that will be delivering water to various customers, including several Olympic venues, in 2008.

## Start the Year Off Right!

#### Comply with State and local regulations

- Check that sprinklers don't overspray onto eating areas, drinking fountains, and water coolers
- Make sure that reclaimed water doesn't puddle or pond on your property
- Prevent reclaimed water from running off of your property or overspraying onto adjacent properties
- Check the condition of reclaimed water signs and call Tucson Water to obtain new ones

### Start the Year Off Right!

- Do not use reclaimed water for drinking, bathing, or car washing
- Water only during times when the potential for contact with reclaimed water is low
- Wash with soap and drinking water if you come into contact with reclaimed water
- If reclaimed water is discharged off your property, notify Tucson Water (791- 2689) immediately

If you would like a reclaimed water information packet that includes copies of State and local reclaimed water regulations. Please call 791-4331.





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### **Reclaimed Water Online**

The Tucson Water Website now has more information about reclaimed water. The following list includes just some of the information you can find on the Website site:

- A map of the reclaimed water system
- Reclaimed water quality information
- The Reclaimed Water Song written by 5<sup>th</sup> graders at Manzo Elementary School
- Downloadable application forms
- Phone numbers to call for more information

Check out the website at <u>www.cityoftucson.org/water</u>. Just click on the reclaimed water logo.